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DOWNTOWN, PARK SLOPE & BAY RIDGE EDITIONS

AWP/16 pages • Vol. 32, No. 16 • Friday, April 24, 2009 • FREE



Sizzlin'!

Alexis Korman shows off how she can not only bring home the bacon, but fry it up in a pan, in advance of next Sunday's Park Slope Pork Off, which will take place at Fifth Avenue's Lok Lounge. See page 7 for details.

GYM-NAUSEAM!

Locals: College's arena plan makes us sick

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

OK, so it's not Atlantic Yards, but St. Joseph's College has unleashed the borough's second-most-divisive fight over a basketball arena by unveiling plans to build an athletic center on a landmark block of Clinton Hill.

The small commuter college's plans for a 330-seat fieldhouse on scenic Clinton Avenue was the slam-dunk support of Community Board 2's Land Use Committee in January, but neighborhood residents followed that 13-0 vote with a full-court press, saying that the proposed facade is too plain for a street with the most beautiful homes in Brooklyn.

"That is the premier block of the entire community," said Society for Clinton Hill member Shana Barnes, referring to the stretch between Wiloughby and DeKalb avenues. The Pratt Mansion, a building St. Joseph's College owns, and other historical sites dot the block, which is part of the architecturally protected Clinton Hill historic district.

"A stark box does not seem to be the best choice," Barnes said. The college would not make its rendering available to The Brooklyn Paper. According to people who have seen it, the plan calls for a two-story facility where a garden and building stand now. The school maintains that it needs the gym in order for its basketball team to be



FROM COURT YARD TO BALL COURT: St. Joseph's College says it wants to build a gymnasium on Clinton Avenue between DeKalb and Wiloughby streets in Clinton Hill.

viable to attract students. The Long Island-based school was founded in 1916 and currently educates just over 1,000 students at its Brooklyn campus. Its men's and women's teams play at Brooklyn Tech HS.

Opponents want the college to redesign the home court or build it above the school's large parking lot on Vanderbilt Avenue, but St. Joe's apparently said that such a scheme is unfeasible.

"The school is mistaken," said Brent Porter, an architect at the Pratt Institute. "You can have the best of both worlds."

To realize its hoop dream, St. Joseph's must gain the approval of the city's Landmark Preservation Commission, which is not yet up.

WIN WILCO TICKETS

By Gersh Kuntzman

The Brooklyn Paper

Wilco will play Kipsy Park in Coney Island on July 13 — and we've got two tickets to give away!

The Chicago-based band announced on Monday that Jeff Tweedy, Brooklynite Mikael Jorgenson and the rest of the



band will make the stop at the 7,500-seat minor league baseball stadium as part of its "Ashes of American Flags" tour. It's the only New York-area stop on the tour.

As such, this is one hot ticket, so imagine our excitement to be giving away two duets to the See DUCATS on page 16

Lard and clear

Caputo's bread the talk of Iraq

It is very rare in the columnist's life that a story comes along that involves lard bread, our president, our soldiers on the front lines and a local baker, but this is just such a story.

The president, of course, is President Obama, whose relationship with, and affection for, lard bread, I must admit, is unknown.

But his connection to lard bread is now and forever part of history: On April 7, the president made a surprise visit to the troops in Iraq. Now, presidential security being what it is — and the situation in Iraq being what it is — Camp Victory in Baghdad was in a state of semi-lockdown for the entirety of Obama's visit.

Some soldiers had no access to



By Gersh Kuntzman

nourishment for hours, which is where the lard bread comes in. You see, Air Force Major Todd Schug just happened to have a stockpile. His sister-in-law, Park Sloper Trish Martin, sends lard bread to him in the crate of civilization on a regular basis.

"I knew that the president would be arriving during our dinner hour and was wondering what I was going to eat since we would be behind closed doors for the entire time,"

Schug wrote via e-mail from the killing zone. "Then, just as I was getting ready to go behind closed doors, [I remembered the] Caputo's lard bread."

Now, if soldiers are anything like journalists, Schug's next paragraph would have described how he hid in a secluded foxhole and gorged himself on lard bread while his comrades in arms suffered in stomach-growing silence.

But Schug's code of conduct forbade such selfishness, and he willingly shared the lard bread. "I fed all 20 people that were in there with me," he said. "I told them the story of my favorite sister-in-law asking what I wanted and me saying See LARD BREAD on page 15



BREAD OF LIFE: Air Force Major Todd Schug shows off a Caputo's lard bread, which later fed him and his comrades during an hours-long lockdown while the president visited Iraq.

Dock St. tower is approved

By Ben Muessig

The Brooklyn Paper

The City Planning Commission voted overwhelmingly to support a controversial tower next to the Brooklyn Bridge — though the bridge's 18-story wing will be shaved by one story.

In addition, Jed Walenta's 325-unit Dock Street proposal — which features a "green" design, plus 65 below-market-rate rentals and a public middle school — would lose two to three stories from a part of its 10-story wing that is closest to the bridge.

The vote to raze Walenta's lot from manufacturing to residential was 11-2, but despite the landslide, Planning Commission Chairwoman Amanda Burden described the proposal as "the most difficult to come before the commission in many years."

"The height adjustment will better reflect and respect the surrounding buildings in the [DUMBO] historic district," she added.

Her vice chairman, Kenneth Knuckles, who voted yes, added: "The modifications go a long way in modifying the project in a way that allows to maintain its virtues and at the same time protect the aura of the Brooklyn Bridge."

Commissioner Shirley MacRae, former chair of DUMBO's Community Board 2, voted no, saying that even a trimmed building was too tall.

"The tower would still loom over the bridge and significantly obscure views," she said.

As expected, Walenta disagreed, issuing a statement after the vote that thanked the Commission for its "hard work and thoughtful deliberations."

"Their support confirms our overall vision that See DOCK ST. on page 16



Boerum Hill playwright wins Pulitzer

By Gersh Kuntzman

The Brooklyn Paper

First she was a certifiable genius — now Boerum Hill's Lynn Nottage is a Pulitzer Prize winner.

The ears of the literary and journalism awards on Monday declared Nottage's play, "Ruined," the winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for drama.

The judges called the play, which is set in a Congolese brothel, "a searing drama... that compels audiences to face the horror of wartime rape and brutality while still finding affirmation of life and hope amid hopelessness."



Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage lives on Dean Street.

The play was "inspired" by the interviews Nottage collected for herself in Africa, she told The Brooklyn Paper on Tuesday.

"The play is about rape in the Congo, but it is a much more universal tale," Nottage said. "It's about people whose lives have been devastated and how they resurrect themselves during desperate times, like war. It's about survival."

As gripping as "Ruined" is, its brutal story didn't detract from Nottage's ability to enjoy her new honor.

"I do feel giddy and very excited," she said. "It's gratifying that some-

times when art and politics intersect, something beautiful happens. I felt such an urgency writing this play because these women's stories weren't reaching the world at large. What we hear from Africa are the statistics, the fragments, but we don't see these women as three-dimensional human beings, as people who suffer."

"Ruined" is currently running at the Manhattan Theater Club and has already been extended once, to May 10. Nottage said she's optimistic that the Pulitzer will encourage producers to extend the run again.

Readers of The Brooklyn Paper always knew Nottage would make

the big (and bigger) time.

Two years ago, when she won her MacArthur Foundation "Genius" grant, Nottage joined fellow prize winners Mercedes Doretti of Clinton Hill and Joan Snyder of Park Slope in our first-ever, all-genius "smackdown."

In the interview, we asked Nottage what she would work on next, thanks to the MacArthur grant. Her answer?

"I am actually getting ready to workshop a play in Chicago at the end of the week called 'Ruined,' she said.

Clearly, it turned out well.

Broke-lyn Museum

Wages slashed, show cancelled

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

The cash-strapped Brooklyn Museum quietly announced a bevy of emergency measures including cancelling a major art exhibition, furloughing all staff, slashing salaries and offering buyouts to its 281 full-time employees.

The Museum, citing a \$2.3-million loss in aid from city government over the past three years, announced in a rare Saturday press release that all staff must take one unpaid week of vacation this summer, and employees making more than \$60,000 will see their salaries reduced.

The museum has also banned all staff travel.

Though the press release said the cuts were designed to "minimize the impact on our visitors," they will be felt nonetheless: the long-planned September exhibit, "Joan Mitchell: Donald Saaf and the Art of Collaboration," which would have included works by star artists Robert Rauschenberg and Roy Lichtenstein, has been canceled.

More exhibits could be scrapped, warned the Museum in its statement, which also said that the annual operating budget is \$29 million a year. If that's the case, the reduction in city funds over the past three years amounts to just over two percent. The city will still provide \$7.36 million in funding in the next fiscal year — though that's down from \$9.1 million this year.

The art world hasn't seen cuts like this since Vincent Van Gogh hopped off his car, but museum officials didn't show any signs of pain in a prepared statement.

"These measures have been carefully considered... to allow the Museum to provide the same degree of access and quality of experience to our public, while maintaining our financial stability," said Arnold Lehman, the Brooklyn Museum's director.

The reductions are the second thrust of a major effort to balance the Museum's troubled budget. Last month, the museum hiked its suggested donation from \$8 to \$10.

He's got Brooklyn spirits

Brewery co-founder moving to the hard stuff

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

One of the men who brought beer back to Brooklyn is moving on to the hard stuff.

Tom Potter, the retired co-founder of Brooklyn Brewery, plans to distill whiskey and gin in the borough — the first legal still in the city since Prohibition. Brooklynites could be imbibing as soon as next year, if everything goes smooth like, to pull a simile out of the blue, a single malt Scotch.

Potter still needs to find investors for the \$3-million venture, to secure a location in Brooklyn and to soberly hop through the licensing hoops of the State Liquor Authority.

"I'm not expecting it to be easy,

but I'm optimistic," Potter said, whose newly formed company is New York Distilling. "We're about a year away from production."

The style will be "handmade," "traditional" and "artisanal" spirits, not some bathtub gin or moonshine. He plans to buy ingredients, such as rye for his whiskey or botanicals for his gin, from an upstate organic farm.

Potter founded Brooklyn Brewery in Williamsburg with Steve Hindy in 1997, but sold his stake about five years ago.

After "doing a lot of kayaking," Potter, 53, is ready to hop back to work — and that means drinking.

He's scouring the borough for a See BREWING on page 2



RAISE A GLASS: Tom Potter, seen here when he was a brewer, is now planning a distillery!

— Gan Menachem —

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There will be 'Giants'

Free show at Prospect Park

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper



Another day, another giant piece of concert news: They Might Be Giants revealed on Tuesday that the band will be doing a "free family concert" in Prospect Park on July 11.

Coming one day after the announcement of a Coney Island show by Wilco and earlier news of David Byrne's "Celebrate Brooklyn" concert, it appears that summer is setting up to be a great one for fans of geek rock.

TMGB "announced" the show in typically quirky fashion — with a posting

by drummer Marty Beller on the Park Slope Parents message board. "I just wanted to give everyone an early heads up about the date," he posted. "They Might Be Giants will be doing a free family concert at the Prospect Park band shell as part of Celebrate Brooklyn on Saturday, July 11 at 4 p.m. We'd love to see you all there!"

One of music's oddest,

yet most-compelling bands, They Might Be Giants came out of Williamsburg in the mid-1980s with a quirky hit, "Don't Let's Start" off an eponymous LP that also featured the power-chord classic "She Was a Hotel Detective." The joke fol-

lowed, "Nothing's Gonna Change My Clothes," and the mock country, "Alienation's For the Rich." But the band quickly moved beyond novelty into genius with its 1988 release, "Lincoln" and 1990 album, "Flood." Lead singers John Linnell (left in photo) and John Flansburgh remained together for the decades beyond that, never truly abandoned their knack for catchy funny songs, but also never becoming a novelty act themselves.

More recently, they've put out a series of recent children's albums, including "No!" and "Here Come the ABCs," that have endeared them to a new generation. "Here Come the 123s" even won a Grammy. They Might Be Giants at the Prospect Park band shell (enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street), July 11, 4 p.m. Free.

BAM! That was a great night!

The Brooklyn Paper

What a night at the Brooklyn Academy of Music last Thursday.

The Fort Greene institution honored choreographer Merce Cunningham with a gala to mark not only his 90th birthday, but his show, "Nearly Ninety," a new collaboration with John Paul Jones (yes, the guy from Led Zeppelin!), Takehisa Kosugi and Sonic Youth.

Actress Parker Posey was resplendent in her white jacket, and Thurston Moore of Sonic Youth, one of the collaborators on the Cunningham piece, was joined by Paul D. Miller (you know him as D.J. Spooky).

Dancers cheered Cunningham after the show.

For more party pics, visit www.BrooklynPaper.com.



Actress Parker Posey at the BAM Spring Gala last week.

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The developers of the former police stationhouse at 72 Poplar St. in Brooklyn Heights are trying again.

Old precinct has new plan

By Ben Muessig

The Brooklyn Paper

Here's one precinct house you won't mind being locked up in!

The owners of the former Brooklyn Heights precinct-house on Poplar Street say they will convert the former police station into rental apartments by gutting the three-story building and constructing a two-story addition on its roof.

Architect Andrew Friedman, whose 2007 plan to convert the circa-1913 edifice into residences was blocked by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, told The Brooklyn Paper that the rooftop addition would not be visible from Poplar Street.

"[The precinct] has an Italianate roof that sticks out considerably over the front and the sides of the building, so that helps hide the addition considerably," he said.

Friedman's project also calls for the "complete historic restoration of the existing facade" of the stationhouse — which would contain about 30 rental apartments and a first-floor medical facility — as well as the conversion of an adjacent one-story garage into a three-story residential building.

"We're going to be using the language of the existing architecture in a different way," said the designer. The proposal to alter the precinct-house, which is between Henry and Hicks streets, sailed passed Community Board 2's Land Use Committee with a vote of 9-0 on April 15. Two members abstained over concerns about the materials and the visibility of the rooftop addition, according to District Manager Rob Ferris.

The next step in the residential conversion will be a vote by CB2's Executive Committee, followed by a Landmarks Preservation Commission hearing.

Fare hike blues

The Brooklyn Paper

The MTA fare hike finally has a protest song! Bushwick folk singer Frank Hoier dropped by our offices this week to sing his new folk classic, "Mister MTA Blues" — and you can watch him jam with our blues-harmonica-butcherer editor on our award-winning Web site, www.BrooklynPaper.com.

The side-guitar, "Exile on Main Street" — influenced track puts the blame squarely where the Band of Bushwick thinks it belongs: on the lime-dripping men and women who run the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Hoier is not only a regular in our Metrotech office. He also performs every other Wednesday at Juke's in the Columbia Street Waterfront District and every other Thursday at Northeast Kingdom in Bushwick.



BREWING

Continued from page 1

facility to produce the booze and entice visitors with tours. He's checked out Williamsburg, Red Hook, Sunset Park and Gowanus.

"I would prefer Gowanus — it's just a really cool neighborhood," Potter said.

Crain's New York Business reported Potter's new venture on Wednesday and by early evening, Potter had more buzz than the regulars at Juke's Fifth Amendment.

"Anything Tom puts out is going to be something I'm happy to carry in my store," said Darrin Siegfried, owner of Red, White and Bobbly, the Park Slope liquor store.

Potter, making the transition from brewing to distilling, is underwritten by the old adage of "beer before liquor, never sicker," that has saved many a tippler from a rough night. "I'm fearless in the face of that," said Potter. "I don't think there's a bit of truth to it." — with Evan Gardner

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THE stoop

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

FORT GREENE

Gooooooooaaaaaah!!!!

Soccer war appears to be ending in Fort Greene

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

A long-running fight over a popular section of Fort Greene Park that has been turned into a dustbowl by pick-up soccer players appears to be nearing a happy settlement, thanks to the help of the local councilwoman.

The dedicated lawn near the DeKalb Avenue and Washington Park entrance has been a source of feisty relations among footballers and parents, whose children frolic in a nearby playground. Parkgoers who favor passive use of the landmark park have also been perturbed at the sight of the worn out pitch.

"They've been complaining for a long time about this," said Jacob Gayle, one of the players, who toured the park and checked out alternate sites last Friday with Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene) and Parks Department officials.



Soccer players have turned Fort Greene Park into a dustbowl.

"We need a soccer place and this is a park. We just want to play soccer. We don't want to complain or fight."

But other park users certainly did complain — and James brought the players and the Parks Department into her office last week for a shoot-out. The goal was to find an alternate site for the athletes to lace up their cleats, no easy feat in a neighborhood with chronic shortages of open space.

The players ruled out the idea of moving to the less-trafficked northern side of Fort Greene Park, near Myrtle Avenue, because the lay of the land was not flat enough.

Yet a tentative solution was put forward that would get the players time on proper fields, like Brooklyn Tech HS's artificial turf on Clermont Avenue near Fulton Street or at Long Island University's field on Wiloughby Street.

To smooth things over, the soccer players offered to pay to reseed the arid patch of Fort Greene Park.

The conflict around the so-called "Dust Bowl" has been longer, yet far less violent, than the other Soccer War fought between El Salvador and Honduras in

1969. The most recent flare up came when parents yelled at a group of sportsmen after an errant soccer ball hit a child.

"I have been aware for years about problems around this spot. It's an ancient problem as old as the park itself," said Ruth Goldstein, a member of the Fort Greene Park Conservancy. "The park is so small and we're so overused."

James said she intervened because the time had come, figuratively and seasonally. "I knew that the summer was coming and we want to

avoid conflict," she told The Brooklyn Paper.

Past efforts by the Parks Department to re-grow the grass without moving the games, which also occasionally include cricket and real American football, have failed. Like James, the city wants to accommodate everyone.

"Pickup games are allowed. We encourage active recreation," said Parks spokesman Phil Abramson. "We're just trying to facilitate different uses."

— with Roland Li

GREENPOINT

Bridge over troubled nabe

New Kosciuszko Bridge plan could cost local jobs

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Replacing Greenpoint's decaying Kosciuszko Bridge might make the roadway safer for drivers, but reconstructing the overpass could also displace more than a dozen local businesses from the shadow of the span.

In order to build a safer, wider and more modern bridge connecting Greenpoint and Queens, the state might relocate 15 properties — potentially displacing some 180 workers — through its power of condemnation.



John Iacono could lose his land under the Kosciuszko Bridge under a state plan.

Workers won't begin demolishing the old bridge until 2013, but state Department of Transportation officials will start negotiating to acquire properties in its footprint starting in two months, spokesman Adam Levin told The Brooklyn Paper.

Levine added that the state aims to keep the relocated Greenpoint businesses in Greenpoint.

"A lot of these businesses have employees who live locally ... and we are doing everything we can to keep everybody within the neighborhood, and if not in the neighborhood, somewhere close by, and certainly within the borough," he noted.

But some of the businesses directly below the traffic-choked mass bridge that carries the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway from Greenpoint to Manhattan, Queens, doubt the state will be able to find them another North Brooklyn location.

"It's a disaster," said John Iacono, operations manager at Citywide Demolition on Anthony Street, which maintains two yards in the shadow of the tongue-twisting bridge.

"We need the yards for work — there's no other

spaces around here," he said.

If the state cannot find Citywide Demolition a new home for its yards in Greenpoint, Iacono said he might be forced to lay off workers.

"We employ 10 guys on those yards. If we close the yards, they ain't going have a job," he said.

The risk to local businesses is worth the reward to motorists, said Amy Cleary, a spokeswoman for state Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D-Greenpoint).

"Nobody wants to take anybody's property by eminent domain — but the bottom line is that the bridge needs to be replaced," said Cleary, who insisted that her office is fighting to keep local businesses in the neighborhood.

The Kosciuszko, infamous for its steep incline and decline, was built in 1939 to accommodate large ships passing below on the once-bustling Newtown Creek. The new plans call for a lower bridge that would provide drivers with more visibility and make it easier for trucks to maintain their speed, lessening traffic, according to transportation planners.

The \$700-million proposal also calls for widening the roadway from six lanes to nine lanes and adding a walking path and bike lane to the span, which is named after the 18th-century Polish general who fought with the American colonists during the Revolutionary War.

The state also plans to build small parks, which will include boat launches into Newtown Creek, beside the new bridge. The creek is currently being considered by federal officials for placement on the national "Superfund" list of toxic sites.

DOWNTOWN

Fancy supermarket opens

By Aisha Gawad
The Brooklyn Paper

The corner of Hoyt and Schermerhorn Streets in Downtown Brooklyn isn't exactly known for its upscale, but that will change with the addition of Brooklyn Fare, an independent market that opened this week.



Brooklyn Fare, a much-needed supermarket in the burgeoning residential area on Schermerhorn Street in Downtown, has opened.

Tucked between office buildings and construction sites on booming Schermerhorn, the new gourmet shop had a soft opening on Monday, enticing passersby with gleaming tomatoes and freshly-baked muffins from the window. Brooklyn Fare is part regular grocery store, offering fresh produce, packaged foods, and household and convenience items, but its coffee bar, cafe, and long menu of prepared meals from chef Cesar Ramirez lend a gourmet market feel.

Ramirez whips up his prepared foods in an open kitchen where passers-by can

owner Moncer Issa, who could be forgiven for ignoring competitors like the new Trader Joe's at the corner of Court Street and Atlantic Avenue and the venerable Shah's, on Atlantic Avenue between Court and Clinton streets, neither of which has a cafe.

The residential community hasn't fully bloomed yet, but hundreds of units will come online soon. In the meantime, Issa is encouraged already.

"I've gotten really great feedback so far," he said.

"We are reaching out to residents of Boerum Hill and the neighborhoods beyond that. We are doing good lunch business and have gotten several catering orders already."

The grand opening is set for Friday, May 6. Brooklyn Fare (200 Schermerhorn St. at Hoyt Street in Downtown, (718) 243-0050) is open seven days a week, 7 am-7 pm.

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84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO
Boorum Hill-Downtown
Someone broke into a Cranberry Street apartment on April 18 and stole more than \$600,000 worth of photographic equipment.

The victim, a professional photographer, told cops that he left his apartment, located between Columbia Heights and Willow Street, at 8:50 a.m. When he returned at 2 p.m., the equipment, which included several specialized lenses and was worth \$625,575, was gone.

Pushed around

A man shoved a pedestrian on Hoyt Street on April 20 and stole his laptop, but he was quickly tackled by a nearby cop — unfortunately, without the computer.

The victim told cops he was walking on the corner of Pacific Street at 10 a.m. when someone came up behind him, pushed him to the ground, and grabbed his Apple laptop. When the victim started yelling, “he robbed me,” a police officer responded and chased the robber down.

Safe cracked

Someone cracked the safe in the basement of a Court Street grocery store on April 15 and stole more than \$22,000.

Police believe the robber entered Cobblestone Pools, located between Congress and Warren streets, through an unlocked basement door sometime between 9 p.m. on April 14 and 6 a.m. the following morning.

58TH PRECINCT

Park Slope
Lounge lizard
In another variation of the old steal-the-wallet-at-the-coffee-shop trick, a bad-dit took a woman's bag after she left it at the Union Street Tea Lounge on April 9.

The victim had been enjoying a respite in the popular couch-filled cafe, between

POLICE BLOTTER

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The owner returned to the apartment, located between Clinton and Court streets, at 7:45 p.m., to discover that two laptops and a pair of diamond earrings were missing.

There were several security cameras near the scene of the crime, but police were not immediately able to check the footage.

Cursed purse

A thing was arrested after attacking a woman on Douglass Street on April 15 — and hiding under a parked car.

The victim was near Fifth Avenue at around midnight when the brute approached her from behind, grabbed her by the neck, and pulled her to the ground. The perp struggled with the victim for a few minutes before managing to snatch her purse.

Barth's victim wasn't done yet. She got up and chased the thug, who promptly took the wallet from the purse and dropped the now-unsuccessful handbag.

But he didn't get far. Cops soon found him under the car, and he was collared.

Big Apple

A burglar bashed into a Fourth Avenue apartment on April 17, taking an Apple laptop with him.

The victim left her apartment, between Bergen Street and St Marks Place, at around noon. When she returned four hours later, she noticed that somebody had broken

through her door and that her computer was gone.

Jewel fool

A thief nicked at least 21 pieces of valuable jewelry and a camera from a Pacific Street apartment on April 17.

The victim and her boyfriend left the apartment, between Fourth and Flatbush avenues, at around 8:45 a.m. The first floor, which was under construction, provided easy access for the crook, who slipped in and took \$7,000—\$10,000 worth of jewels.

The couple noticed the theft when it returned more than 15 hours later.

Mobile miseries

At least four cars were stolen or broken into last week. Here's a roundup:

• A thief nabbed a 2003 Audi from Nevins Street between April 15 and 17. The victim left his car — equipped with \$2,800 in stereo equipment and rims — between Carroll and Union streets at 11:30 p.m. He returned just over a day later to find his car missing.

• A 2002 Volkswagen Jetta was stolen from a spot on Second Street on April 18.

The car, which was between Fifth and Sixth avenues, had a Nokia phone and a \$200 Armani jacket inside. The victim left her car at around 9 p.m. and came back two hours later to an empty parking space.

• A 1999 Volvo was stolen from a van in the Lowe's parking lot on April 13. The victim had been shopping in the grocery store, which is on Second Avenue between 14th and 15th streets, at around 11:20 a.m. When he returned to the van just 90 minutes later, the stuff was gone.

• A crook bashed through the window of a 1999 Honda Odyssey parked on Sixth Street to get to a woman's purse on April 15. The victim left her car between Sixth and Seventh avenues at around 5 p.m., with her purse locked inside. When she came back an hour later, her purse — containing \$45 — was gone.

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill
Car chase

Armed burglars burst into a Cumberland Street apartment on April 15, attacking the man and woman inside, before fleeing and trying to elude police in a high-speed chase that ended several blocks away.

The 25-year-old man and his 25-year-old guest were in his home between Greene and Lafayette avenues at 7:30 p.m. when two men thundered in. One intruder, with a 38 revolver, said, “Don't look at me,” before striking the man with the gun.

They fled the building and hopped into a car. Police stopped their car at Wilkoff Street and Flatbush Avenue Extension, but were only able to arrest the driver, 26.

Mall rats

Police arrested three women last Monday in two shoplifting incidents in the Atlantic Terminal mall near the corner of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues on April 13.

In the first crime, police cuffed a 60-year-old woman in Target for allegedly stealing another woman's purse — and the \$230 in it — at around 5:30 p.m.

About two hours later, it took three cops to subdue two women, 19 and 26, who were caught pilfering “miscellaneous merchandise” from the Duffy's department store in the same Bruce Ratner-owned mall.

According to the police report, the two women scuffled with officers, injuring three of them, after they were caught skipping the bill.

Bar-bell-baric

A 24-year-old man arguing with his friend, 44, hit him in the head with a 20-pound dumbbell on St. Felix Street on April 16.

Police arrested the meat-head at 3 p.m. between Fulton Street and Dekalb Avenue for the attack that sent the victim to nearby Brooklyn Hospital for injuries.

Anti-dentile!

A thief broke into a car parked in a commercial lot on South Elliott Place and stole a box of dental equipment overnight on April 16.

The driver, 48, said she had left her car at 10:30 p.m. and came back to the lot between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue at 9:45 p.m. to find her window smashed and oral gear gone.

Berry picking

In a lightning-flash mugging on Cumberland Street and Park Avenue, a mystery man rapidly ripped away a BlackBerry from a 20-year-old man on April 17.

The victim, who never saw the pickpocket, said the thief shoved an unknown object into his back at 10:30 p.m. and picked his cellphone from his pocket in one fell swoop.

Downing and out

A burglar stole a laptop

from a Downing Street apartment on April 14.

The resident, 33, left his apartment near the corner of Putnam Avenue at 8 a.m. and returned at 3 p.m. to discover that his front door had been pried open and his laptop had been swiped.

90TH PRECINCT

Williamsburg-Bushwick
Slash attack

A bad guy with a blade slashed a 22-year-old across the face as he exited a Graham Avenue store early on April 19.

The vicious villain cut the victim at around 12:40 a.m. near the corner of Johnson Avenue, leaving the wounded passerby with a laceration that required treatment at Kings County Hospital.

Cell snatched

Three thugs mugged a deaf teenager and stole his cellphone on April 17.

The crooks grabbed the 15-year-old's T-Mobile Sidekick from his hand as he walked down Graham Avenue between Johnson and Montrose avenues at around 1:30 p.m. Cops locked up one suspect, but the victim, who communicates in sign language, was not able to identify the detainee as an attacker and the arrest was voided.

Change coming

Burglars burst through the back door of a South Fifth Street apartment late on April 17 and took everything they could carry — including \$100 of loose change.

The thieves pushed their way into the apartment between 5:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. the next morning. Once inside the residence, which is between Bedford and Driggs avenues, the thieves grabbed two Apple laptops, a camera, a checkbook, and the valuable change.

Not passed over

Burglars snatched cash from a Penn Street home on April 18 while the 61-year-old resident was at synagogue.

The crooks broke in between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and heisted \$1,000 before fleeing from the apartment, which is between Wythe and Bedford avenues.

Oh, doctor!

Crooks stole two laptops from a South Second Street apartment on April 17, while the resident was at a doctor's appointment.

The thieves ransacked the apartment, which is between Havermyer Street and Marcy Avenue between 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. — Ben Muessig

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint-Williamsburg
Eight attack

A mob of at least eight hoodlums held up a hard-partying 25-year-old at the corner of Bedford Avenue and North 11th Street early on April 19.

The gang confronted the victim — whom cops said was inebriated — just after midnight and hijacked his cellphone and cash, leaving him bruised and scared.

Shin splints

An argument turned into an assault on April 17, when cops nabbed a Greenpoint suspect of striking a 31-year-old repeatedly in the legs with a wooden stick.

Cops locked up a 35-year-old suspect after he allegedly thrashed his victim in the knees and lower thighs at the corner of Franklin and Huron streets at around 7:45 p.m.

Haul of music

A grifter snatched a 26-year-old concert-goer's purse after she placed it on the stage of a prominent Northside venue on April 12.

The victim left her handbag — which contained her credit cards, Metrocard and cash — on the stage of the North Sixth Street club Public Assembly at around midnight.

When the victim turned away from the performers — which included karaoke and a show by Genghis Tron — a crook grabbed her purse and fled from the venue between Kent and Wythe avenues.

Crime stoppers

Greenpointers tried to intervene in at least two North Brooklyn crimes this week — with mixed results. Here are the details:

• A Greenpoint Avenue resident almost nabbed three thieves who broke into his apartment and snatched two iPhones on April 17.

The victim returned to his home, which is between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street, at around 12:15 a.m. and noticed that his door was ajar. When the victim peered out the window, he spotted one of the crooks climbing the fire escape towards the roof.

The brave North Brooklynite scurried up the fire escape, but he gave up when the thieves hopped onto the roof of an adjoining building.

• A Berry Street resident

See BLOTTER on page 15

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Coney Island rising

City sending in the clowns

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus will have a summer engagement in Coney Island. Mayor Bloomberg announced last week, one month after The Brooklyn Paper first reported the so-called Greatest Show on Earth would be coming to the People's Playground.

The special production, called the "Coney Island Boom-a-Ring" will feature acrobats, motorcycle stunts and peanut-munching elephants on a site near the corner of W. 21st Street and Surf Avenue every Thursday through Sunday from June 17 to Sept. 7.

"The circus is coming to town. I've always wanted to be able to say that," said Bloomberg outside of Nathan's Famous hot dog stand on the corner of Stillwell and Surf avenues.

The mayor said that Ringling Brothers would present "a Norman Rockwell kind of circus," which could be a wholesome shot of Americana for Coney Island, which last year saw the closing of Astroland theme park.

The announcement came as the Bloomberg Administration seeks approval for its controversial plan to buy land in Coney Island and build a new city-owned park adjacent to privately owned hotels and year-round tourist attractions in the historical amusement area between the Cyclone roller coaster and Keyspan Park. That zone is home to seasonal diversions and vacant lots now. Bloomberg also wants to build thousands of new apartments to the north and west of the funland.

Other interim entertainment is planned for land owned by Joe Sitt, the mayor's main adversary for control of the future of Coney Island. Sitt owns more than 10 acres in the core amusement area and is wrangling with the city over an appropriate price for his land.

Sitt says he will install dozens of rides and carnival sideshows later this spring on the grounds where Astroland stood, at Surf Avenue and West 10th Street. A flea market with food stalls featuring the popular Latino vendors from Red Hook Park is scheduled for Sitt's land on Stillwell Avenue.

"Coney Island Boom-a-Ring," June 17-Sept. 7. Tickets, \$10. Visit www.ringling.com for info.



ELEPHANTS IN THE ROOM: Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus is coming to Coney.

Sitt-ing pretty

Joe's renters returning

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

All but one of the Boardwalk entrepreneurs in Coney Island will be back this summer, ending months of uncertainty as the merchants hammered out deals with their landlord, Thor Equities, the main landowner in the amusement area.

The announcement on Monday that Cha Cha's, Ruby's Old Tyme Bar, Shoot the Freak and others will be back for at least one more season on the Riegelmann Boardwalk comes amid a stepped-up campaign by Thor owner Joe Sitt to show that he is providing a bustling, boisterous summer of activity on his 10-12 acres between the Cyclone roller coaster and Keyspan Park.

Sitt also recently announced a so-called "Festival by the Sea," which will feature dozens of rides and sideshow acts on West 10th Street and a flea market on Stillwell Avenue.

"This summer will be the best we have had in decades, as the Festival is bringing new rides, new vendors, better freaks and filling the Boardwalk with the institutions that have been here for generations," Sitt boldly predicted in a statement.

The tenants rejoiced, too, although their rents were raised this season.

"We are thrilled to be coming back and to be a part of the festival," said John Cianco, owner of Cha Cha's.

Coney Island appeared headed towards a hard luck summer with Astroland closed, leaving only one full-fledged amusement park in operation — Deno's Wonder Wheel.

But the People's Playground may actually benefit from the current game of one-upmanship between Sitt and the city, which wants to buy his land as part of a planned new amusement park, hotels and attractions.

The city unveiled its ace in the hole last Friday, announcing that Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus was booked for a special summer engagement in Coney Island.

The one Boardwalk lease that Thor did not renew belonged to Diana Carlin, the owner of Lola Staar, a T-shirt boutique. Carlin, who had been an outspoken critic of the real-estate company, will reopen her shop, possibly on Memorial Day weekend, at a kiosk in the Stillwell Avenue subway station.

She punned Sitt's record as a landlord. "He's not about building his tenant-landlord relationships," Carlin told The Brooklyn Paper. "It's about his negotiations with the city and making as much money as possible."

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— Lonnie Moy, Manhattan



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DIRTY SECRET City gets toxic bill?



CESS POOL: The Gowanus Canal fills with debris (we're talking feces here, folks) after heavy rains.

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The ongoing fight between Mayor Bloomberg and the federal government over the cleanup of the heavily polluted Gowanus Canal is not just about protecting proposed real-estate projects, but also the city treasury.

Thus far, coverage of Bloomberg's opposition to a federal proposal to add the 1.3-mile canal to the Superfund clean-up program has focused on the mayor's stated goal of protecting \$400 million in anticipated residential development in the industrial neighborhood.

But the mayor could also be trying to save the city from being hit with the clean-up bill.

Despite its name, the Superfund is not a pool of money that federal officials tap into for environmental remediation. In fact, one goal of Superfund designation is to identify guilty polluters and get them to pay to clean up toxic sites.

But there is a long history of towns and municipalities being forced by the EPA to open up their checkbooks to pay for decontaminating polluted land. In February, for example, the upstate cities of Poughkeepsie and Newburgh were held responsible for hazardous material on a car and metal processing plant, and had to cough up \$12 million.

Cleaning up the Gowanus, with its dioxins, PCBs, coal tar — and, more important, tens of millions of gallons of raw sewage that spills into it on rainy days — would be considerably more expensive.

The EPA says local governments are usually minor defendants in their suits, but industrial companies have sought big bucks from cities to defray the costs they have to pay to the EPA. In a case from 1989, companies joined together to sue 29 California cities for \$500 million as part of a Superfund battle.

The EPA says it does not yet know who would be targeted if the Gowanus Canal is added to the national priority list of Superfund sites, a controversial proposal first floated earlier this month.

Amid this new debate, a clearer picture began to

emerge this week about why Gov. Paterson secretly appealed in December for federal assistance with the cleanup of Brooklyn's infamous channel. It turns out, state officials now believe that their highly touted efforts are neither adequate to clean the area, nor powerful enough to identify parties responsible for the pollution.

The state is currently overseeing the remediation of three brownfields neighboring the canal that were formerly the site of gas plants. Not only is the soil heavily polluted, but the coal tar sludge leeches into the canal, continuing to poison it.

"It became apparent that it made no sense to remediate the canal in isolated areas near the [gas plant] sites when there was contamination present throughout the canal," said Department of Environmental Conservation spokesman Yancey Roy.

"A comprehensive approach to the remediation of the canal is required, one that will not only cut off all upland sources to the canal, but will also include an overall remedy to the canal itself."

Prior to the possible Superfund designation, there was a mix of efforts to clean parts of the canal and its uplands. In addition to the state-led brownfield program, the city had budgeted \$175 million to reduce the amount of untreated sewage that dumps into the canal after heavy rains. The city also planned to dredge 1,000 feet of the waterway.

Private developers, such as Toll Brothers, which wants to build 460 units on two blocks next to the canal, are mandated to clean their sites and build sewer systems that would not add to the waste stream that flows into the Gowanus. But Toll Brothers continues to threaten to nix the project because Superfund designation would stigmatize the neighborhood.

It has already divided the neighborhood.

Some environmentalists say the Superfund designation is the only way to get a comprehensive clean-up of the so-called Lavender Lake. But other do-gooders point out that remediation can take decades, cost far more than anticipated, and not always work.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

April 24, 2009

By George!

Washington Avenue is becoming a major player

By Shane Kite
for The Brooklyn Paper

Kon Cichlow remembers when the drug of choice on Washington Avenue was crack cocaine, not microbrews served in weird tall beakers with wooden stands.

Cichlow was marking changes in the neighborhood at craft-beer- (and dog-) friendly Washington Commons, one of at least four new saloons which will have opened on the eastern border of Prospect Heights by summer's end.

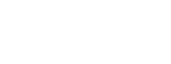
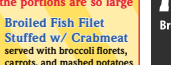
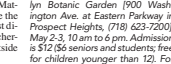
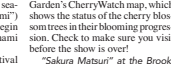
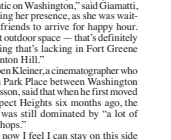
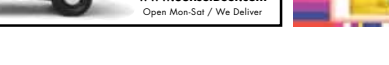
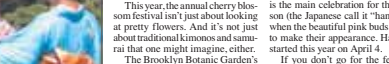
The new spots look to transform the budding strip between Eastern Parkway and Atlantic Avenue, already lined with restaurants offering cuisine from Barbados to Bangkok, into a true nightlife destination.

No, Washington is no in imminent danger of becoming "the new Ludlow," as the Brownstone half-seriously dubbed the street. But it may in fact be turning into the new Vanderbilt, Prospect Heights' more developed, "scenester" avenue to the west.

Despite always being the gateway to the Brooklyn Museum and Botanic Garden, Washington's evolution from bleak to sleek began about five years ago, with the first wave of new restaurants like Cafe Shane, a diner-cum-lounge that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Before that, the area was a "dead zone," according to Cichlow.

"It was a no man's land," said the Park Place resident. "They used to call it Ghost Town. I remember staying in my grandmother's house in the summer of 1981 and counting gunshots to go to sleep at night. They seemed to come from either avenue — bang, bang, bang, bang, bang. When I moved here in 1996, I'd see these German exchange students walking across Washington and think, 'They better have Us.'"

Cichlow says that the street is still lively — but this time he means lively in a good way. "It's amazing: We're back from the dead."



Cheers: Washington Avenue is changing rapidly, thanks to a mix of new bars. At Cafe Shane, hostess Alexia Scott (above) greets customers. (Clockwise from left) Andy Heidel will soon open Way Station, just a few blocks from Ginger Root Cafe. The newcomer Udon is a stylish Asian addition to the neighborhood, which hosts more buildings like this one at Dean Street.

cent spring day.

"There are no bars opening up [north] of Atlantic on Washington," said Giamatti, explaining her presence, as she was waiting for friends to arrive for happy hour. "A great outdoor space — that's definitely something that's lacking in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill."

Reuben Kleiner, a cinematographer who lives on Park Place between Washington and Chasson, said that when he first moved to Prospect Heights six months ago, the avenue was still dominated by "a lot of burbershops."

"But now I feel I can stay on this side of Prospect Heights when I want to hang out locally," he said, downing a drink at the Manhattan. "Normally, I would've walked over to Vanderbilt."

Andy Heidel, who hopes to open Way Station, said he's excited about the area.

See **WASHINGTON AVE** on page 9

Cherries jubilee

This year, the annual cherry blossom festival isn't just about looking at pretty flowers. And it's not just about traditional kimono and samurai that one might imagine, either.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden's annual celebration of all things cherry will also feature performances by Japanese pop stars and DJs, and a panel discussion with the country's best anime voice actors. It's a fusion of new and old, with a pretty pink and-white background.

The two-day festival, held May 2-3,

is the main celebration for the season (the Japanese call it "hanami") when the beautiful pink buds begin to make their appearance. Hanami started this year on April 4.

If you don't go for the festival (officially known as "Sakura Matsuri"), go for the flowers, since the Garden has the largest and most diverse collection of flowering cherries in one place anywhere outside of Japan.

Better still, you can plan your trip practically to the bud, thanks to the

Garden's CherryWatch map, which shows the status of the cherry blossom trees in their blooming progression. Check to make sure you visit before the show is over!

"Sakura Matsuri" at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (900 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights, (718) 625-7200, May 2-3, 10 am to 6 pm. Admission is \$12 (\$6 seniors and students; free for children younger than 12). For info, visit www.bbg.org.

— Emilia Brock

DINING

Pork U.

Finally, a chance to stuff your pork-loving face with ribs, bacon, and barbecued sandwiches — and help the poverty-stricken kids of the Philippines at the same time.

Perhaps it's no coincidence that an all-you-can-eat pork fest is connected to the Filipino charity, Kamay at Puso. Pork and the island nation have a long history.

"Filipinos know how to roast a pig masterfully, and I knew Brooklyn chefs would rise to the challenge," said Laurel Fantauzzo, the fundraising coordinator for Kamay at Puso, who is also organizing the "Park Slope Pork Off" on Sunday, May 3.

Chefs — both pros and amateurs — are cooking up dishes, from traditional pulled pork sandwiches and smoked ribs to even sausage-stuffed doughs, bacon-flavored ice cream, and pork-belly dumplings.

You get to try them all — and vote for your favorites — for just \$10.

One competitor, Peter Shelsky, the executive chef and owner of Pete's Eats, a Park Slope catering company, will be preparing apple-brained pork checks.

"I'm a pork junkie," says Shelsky. "My New Year's resolution for 2008 was to eat pork every day of the year, and I succeeded."

Park Slope Pork Off at Loka Lounge (304 Fifth Ave., at Second Street, (718) 965-9000), Sunday, May 3, 1-4 pm. Tickets, \$10 (includes eating and judging). For info about the charity, visit www.kamayatpuso.org. — Heather Holland

EVENT

Heavy petting

A newly opened Greenpoint beer seller will celebrate May Day (a day late, but who's counting?) with a petting zoo — but the only animals on display will be of the human variety.

Five actors costumed in plush masks will confine themselves to a chicken wire pen at the May 2 party at Brower Lane, in what organizers claim is an attempt to foster kinship between Brooklynites and beasts.

"There really aren't that many petting zoos where you get to experience an animal-human bond," said Nate Hill, whose comedy theater troupe Club Animals will be donning dog, chicken, rat, bear, and dolphin masks.

Visitors will also enjoy live music and free German sausage and beers.

Brower Lane owner Ed Raven claims he booked the human petting zoo as a nod to Germany's May Day "back" beers, which are strong light lagers that often include goats on their labels.

Club Animals human petting zoo, May 2, at Brower Lane (78 Greenpoint Ave., at Franklin Street in Greenpoint, no phone), 1 to 4 pm. For information, visit browerlane.wordpress.com. — Ben Muessig

EVENT

Fight night

Pro wrestlers are getting ready to pilchdrive Fort Greene in a raucous May 1 don'tbrook.

The brawlers will flex their muscles — and suplex their foes — in eight matches featuring fighters including the Nightmare, Little Greatness, and Rhett Titus.

But the meles are only part of the merriment at Forgotten Championship Wrestling's "No Love Lost" event, which will also boast Hawaiian Tropic Zone models, live music, and an appearance by the retired Iron Sheik, grappler the Iron Sheik.

The lacha won't be libe, but some of the cash from ticket sales will benefit soldiers wounded in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Organizer Tony Nellas says his Spandex-ed slugfest is a great way to support the troops, some of whom will be on hand.

Forgotten Championship Wrestling at the Mason Temple (317 Clermont Ave., at Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 638-1256), May 1, 8 pm. Tickets: \$30 at the door (\$50 for dinner and autograph with the Iron Sheik). For information, visit www.fcwrestling.net. — Ben Muessig



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HERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

TUESDAY

April 28

Font seat

You see it every day, but have you ever stopped to ponder Helvetica, that most ubiquitous of all typefaces? This film explores the mass appeal of the font, and will be followed by a discussion with design experts. Most important: \$3 beers will also be on tap, you know, to lubricate the exchange of ideas.

8 pm, "Helvetica," Bell House (149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510), \$5.

WEDNESDAY

April 29

Fug off

Brooklyn loves its underground music, but is a band really underground if it's been around since the early 1960? The Fugs, who got their start in Manhattan's East Village some-time between the Beats and the Hippies (and pulled their name from Norman Mailer's "Naked and the Dead"), are playing tonight in a show that promises to be fugging awesome.

7 pm, The Fugs, Bell House (149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510), \$20.

THURSDAY

April 30

Salman upstream

After getting a taste of Brooklyn Heights last month at St. Francis College, it now appears that Salman Rushdie can't get enough of us. Tonight, the man whom the Ayatollah wanted dead will lead a Moth storytelling event at Galapagos that will feature Salwa al Neimi, Petina Gappah, Laszlo Garaci and friend of The Paper, Jonathan Ames.

7 pm, Moth storytelling with Salman Rushdie et al, Galapagos Art Space (6 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500), Tickets, \$30.

FRIDAY

May 1

Buy a nose

Travel back to a time when nose jobs were a rare thing of beauty, finely crafted by Viennese alchemists and lovingly restored to victims of duels and Crusade battles. OK, not really. "The Nose-maker's Apprentice" is actually a comedy about a medieval plastic surgeon. Early word is that it'll leave you snorting with laughter.

8 pm, "The Nose-maker's Apprentice," Back Theater (575 Metropolitan Avenue between Union and Lorimer streets in Williamsburg, (718) 907-3461), \$18.

SATURDAY

May 2

Horse race

It's once again time to party Kentucky-style, as the first Saturday brings the Kentucky Derby, the legendary Run for the Roses. Bring your crazy hats and a taste for mint juleps (the day at the races that will include hore shoe tossing, square dancing, live bluegrass music, barbecued chicken and, of course, the Big Race.

2 pm, Derby Day, Bell House (149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510), Free.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, APRIL 24

FILM, "MONSIEUR HULOT'S HOLIDAY": Jacques Tat's classic comedy. \$11 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm, \$15 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), www.lam.org.

OPEN STUDIOS RECEPTION: Free. 5-9 pm, The Space Program (20 Jay St. between Plymouth and John streets, seventh floor in DUMBO), thespaceprogram.com.

BAY RIDGE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: Art exhibit and sale. Free. 5-9 pm, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (742 Fourth St. at Bay Ridge Parkway in Bay Ridge).

ART OPENING: Linda Daniels. Free. 6-9 pm, A.M. Richard Fine Art (328 Berry St. between Second and Third avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 570-1476), www.michardfineart.com.

STREET DANCE, "CATAPULT": Elizabeth Steele's high-flying dance troupe. \$20 (\$10 kids) 7 pm, Streb Lab for Action Mechanics (51 N. First St. between Wythe and Kent avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 384-6471), www.streblab.com.

MUSIC, "ST. MATTHEW PASSION": Jonathan Miller's production of Bach's masterpiece. \$30-\$90, 7:30 pm, BAM Heston Theater (601 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), www.bam.org.

THEATER, "NOIR": Multi-media, dance/theater production. \$12 (\$5 students), 7:30 pm, New York City College of Technology, Voothees Theater (186 Jay St. at Tillary Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 260-5592).

THEATER, "LA DIDONE": Baroque opera by Francesco Cavalli, staged by the Wooster Group. \$47-\$50, 8 pm, St. Ann's Warehouse (138 Water St. at Dock Street in Williamsburg, (718) 254-8779), www.stannarehouse.org.

AVANT-GARDE MUSIC: Josh Sinton, meeting. 6:30 pm, Public School 32 (317 Hoyt St. between Union and President streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 643-3027), www.brooklyn.org.

TUES, APRIL 28

78th Precinct Community Council: Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm, 78th Precinct stationhouse (65 South Ave. at Bergen Street in Prospect Heights, (718) 636-6418).

WED, APRIL 29

Community Board 1 Waterfront and Transportation committees: Monthly meeting. On the agenda: Kent Avenue bike lanes. 6:30 pm, Capital One Bank (307 Manhattan Ave. at Calyer Street in Greenpoint, (718) 708-2901).

Community Education Council: 20.

THURS, APRIL 30

Compeller debate: Progressive Association for Political Action invites all the compeller candidates to hash it out. Free. 6:30 pm, New York (138 South Oxford St. at Fort Greene, (646) 337-4626).

SAT, MAY 2

Walking tour: City Council candidate John Heyer leads a tour of the Mon and Pop shops of Court Street. \$20, Noon. Meet at Sam's restaurant (238 Court St. between Bleecker and Kane streets in Cobble Hill), To RSVP, e-mail CourtStreet@CarrollGardensHistory.com.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com.

CIVIC CALENDAR

SAT, APRIL 25

Candidate forum: Council candidates for the seat currently occupied by Bill DeBlasio are asked to "dazzle" the community. 10:30 am, Carroll Gardens Library (296 Carroll St. at Union Street in Carroll Gardens, (347) 645-8819).

SUN, APRIL 26

11 am-5 pm: NYPD Unity Festival: Brooklyn South Patrol Bureau hosts its annual fair with food and fun for kids. Make Friends with a cop today! Free. Barclay Prichard Square (150 Street at Prospect Park West in Park Slope, (718) 675-7521).

MON, APRIL 27

Community Board 6, Public Safety, Environmental Protection, Licenses and Permits Committees: Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm, Public School 32 (317 Hoyt St. between Union and President streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 643-3027), www.brooklyn.org.

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To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com.



Published weekly at One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn NY 11201 (718) 260-2500


PUBLISHER
Celia Weintraub (718) 260-4503

EDITOR
Gersh Kuntzman (718) 260-4504

SENIOR EDITOR/PROD MGR
Vince DiMarelli (718) 260-4508

EDITORIAL STAFF
STAFF REPORTERS
Mike McLaughlin (718) 260-4506
Ben Muesing (718) 260-4505

INTERNS: Beaa Adler, Emilia Brock, Kate Davidson, Evan Gardner, Asha Givens, Heather Hoffman, Emily Lane, Roland L. Douthett Sappier



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Misery seeker

Local author sought sadness, found joy

By Paula Roth
The Brooklyn Paper

Fort Greene writer Suzanne Guille has had her share of embarrassing moments. In her debut memoir, "Much to Your Chagrin," she describes slapstick follies, like spilling a plate of spaghetti on Philip Levine's lap — a gaffe she tried to correct by taking him to lunch, only to have her credit card declined.

Yet Guille also divulges painful humiliations like disastrous relationships and an identity crisis on the cusp of 30.

At 29, the Massachusetts transplant had a writing degree, but no manuscript. She did have a charismatic and supportive literary agent, and a plan to collect people's most face-reddening stories.

In search of utter humiliation, Guille interviewed strangers in bars, in bistros, on subways and on sidewalks. The tales of degradation included a Romeo tossed into the street and forced to ride the subway clad only in a hot pink Speedo swimsuit and skinny T-shirt — the clothing he'd worn the day before to the beach, where he'd found a lover and lost his wallet.

Then there was an aspiring filmmaker who was working on a movie set when Steven Spielberg made a surprise visit.



Sad times: Author Suzanne Guille will read from her book about humiliations (some of them her own) at BookCourt on April 28.

When a fan sought a photo with the celebrity director, the wannabe auteur couldn't find the shutter button — on an automatic camera!

BOOKS

Suzanne Guille will read from "Much to Your Chagrin" at BookCourt (161 Court St. between Dean and Pacific streets, (718) 875-3677) on April 28 at 7 p.m. and at Flying Saucer Cafe (454 Atlantic Ave., between Third Avenue and Nevins Street, (718) 424-9191) on May 26 at 8 p.m. For information, visit www.suzanneguille.com.

But Guille had to face her own chagrin: the relationship with her agent, a friend unraveled, and the author found herself initiating interviews as a way of burning cigarettes. Her addiction to plumb people's depths was second only to her growing nicotine jones.

The good news? Personal frustration, isolation and depression had turned her little project from a "novelty book" ... you'd see by the checkout counter of Urban Outfitters' into a frank memoir, she said.

And, perhaps, a follow up. Guille said that after finishing the book, she told a young man that she'd just spent a year collecting other people's embarrassing stories and experiencing her own misery. The new friend's idea: "Now you need to ask people about their happy stories."

WASHINGTON AVE...

Continued from page 9

Station by the summer, knows that sentiment gives that he currently works at Beas, a popular Vanderbilt Avenue eatery. Haidel said he wants his "booze and blues" venue to remind people of "Mom's in Fort Greene and Barbies in Park Slope." Expect blues, jazz, singer-songwriter bookings.

The Flying Monkey is art-friendly: Jesse Levitt, also the owner of Bushwick's Kings County, said he's currently looking for local artists, both in the neighborhood and elsewhere in Brooklyn, to create installations he can embed directly into the counterparty of the bar, which should expose patrons (or at least their elbows) to his vision, as well as that of local denizens.

"It's really just a friendly, comfortable bar for people who live nearby," Levitt said.

NIGHTLIFE

Cafe Shane (794 Washington Ave., between St. Johns and Sterling places, (718) 399-0501); **Flying Monkey** (706 Washington Ave., between Prospect Place and St. Marks Avenue, not open yet); **Gen** (659 Washington Ave., between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place, (718) 857-1274); **The Islands** (803 Washington Ave., between Lincoln Place and Eastern Parkway, (718) 398-3575); **The Manhattan** (769 Washington Ave., between Sterling and St. Johns places, no phone); **Ortine** (622 Washington Ave., between Pacific and Dean streets in Prospect Heights, (718) 622-0004); **Udon** (661 Washington Ave., at St. Marks Avenue, (718) 622-8434); **Washington Commons** (718 Washington Ave., at Park Place).

None of the saloons have kitchens, so they complement, rather than compete with, the existing restaurants.

"They'll be an asset for us," says Priscilla Maddox,



General electric: Howon Kim and Hana Lee share a private moment at Washington Commons.

chair of the economic development committee of Community Board 8 and co-owner of Kitchen For Hire, a shared-use commercial gallery that will open in June as a takeout barbecue and dessert joint.

"I've already sent my scouts out to see if they want to buy hors d'oeuvres from us," Maddox said. "A couple of places have already said they're interested. It's wonderful!"

Marceline Watter, who was getting takeaway sushi at Gen, said she was overcome by the street's changes. Watter, who has lived on the avenue for 45 years, said the "new" Wash-

ington reminded her of quaint "old London."

While virtually no one is looking for the area to garner a Park Slope vibe — Washington has a ways to go before it becomes as stroll-worthy as stretches like Fifth and Seventh Avenues on the other side of Prospect Park — many seek a more pedestrian friendly street.

But for now, at least, there are multiple options for neighbors to get their drink on. "Finally," said Gen patron Catherine Weisnewski. "There's something east of Vanderbilt."

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

TROMBONE FESTIVAL: Curtis Newell's Trombone and the Jacob Gardis Music Studio (168 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus), www.brooklynjazz.org

SALES AND MARKETS
PS 321 FLEA MARKET: Free. 9 am-5 pm. PS 321 schoolyard (Seventh Avenue and First Street in Park Slope), www.parkslopeflea.com
THRIFT SALE: Free. 10 am-3 pm. New Utrecht Reformed Church (18th Avenue and 84th Street in Bensonhurst), (718) 234-0678

BROOKLYN FLEA: Free. 10 am-5 pm. Bishop Loughlin HS (157 Clement Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene), www.brownstoner.com/brooklynflea

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free. 11 am-6 pm. (129 N. Sixth St. between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg), www.artistsandfleas.com

BAY RIDGE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: 11 am-7 pm. See Friday, April 24

BROOKLYN INDI MARKET: Free. 11 am-7 pm. See Friday, April 24

OTHER
BROOKLYN TECH HOME-COMING: Honoring the classes of 1929, 1949, 1954, 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989 and 1999. 10 am-4 pm. Brooklyn Tech HS (29 Fort Green St. between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues in Fort Greene), (718) 797-2283

READING, "POETS AT THE TOP OF THE HILL": Open outdoor poetry readings, sponsored by the Waller Project. Free. Noon. Fort Greene Park (Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene), (718) 391-8504, www.wallerproject.org

PARK FUNDRAISER: Skate contest and more. 55. 2pm-4 pm. Thomas Greene Park (Third Avenue and Dugway Street in Gowanus)

FILM, "CLARE'S KNEE": Eric Robner's meditation on just \$11. 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:15 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (130 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene), (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org

OPEN STUDIOS: Free. 2-6 pm. The Space Program (2nd St. between Plymouth and John streets, seventh floor in DUMBO), www.shapereid.com

READING, MIRELE GUILLANO: Author of "French Women For All Seasons: A Year of Secrets, Recipes and Pleasures." Free. 3 pm. PowerHouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO), (718) 666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com

READING, DAMON L. JACOBS: Author of "Alas, Lady Should I?" Free. 4-7 pm. 34th Grand St.



http:// Viva them: You Vegas will perform at the next Acoustically Related show on Tuesday, April 28 at Southpaw in Park Slope. For more nightlife options, see our listings at BrooklynPaper.com/Nightlife

at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-7840, www.starbar.com

ART OPENING: Brigitte Bouquet. Free. 4-7 pm. Wolk Gallery (65 Union St. at Van Brunt Street in Columbia Street Waterfront), www.redshiftart.com

POETRY READING: Regan Good, Laura Solomon and Nancy Kuhl. Free. 6 pm. Old American Can Factory (230 Third St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus), www.espressocoffee.com

ART OPENING: Sculpture by Jack Warren and Tom Frum. Free. 7-10 pm. The Trophy Bar (201 Broadway between Kapay and Rodney streets in Williamsburg), (347) 227-8515, www.trophybar.blogspot.com

ART OPENING: "DNA + US," a group show. Live music. Drinks and snacks included. 8-10 pm. Micro Museum (123 Smith St. between DeKalb and Dean streets in Boerum Hill), (718) 797-3116, www.micromuseum.com

SUN, APRIL 26
OUTDOORS AND TOURS
BIRCHWATER WALK IN GREEN WOOD CEMETARY: Free. 1 am. Main entrance (Fifth Avenue and 26th Street in Sunset Park), www.brooklynbirdclub.org

GREEN WOOD CEMETERY TROLLEY TOUR: Author Alexandra Mosca leads tour of historic monuments. 5:00-7 pm. Green Wood's main entrance (Fifth Avenue and 26th Street in Sunset Park), (718) 768-7300, www.greenwoodcemetery.com

DISCOVERY TOUR: 3 pm. See Saturday, April 25

PERFORMANCE
JAZZ: Jack O'Farrell Quartet. \$6. Noon-4 pm. Puggie's Bar (481 Fifth Ave. at Third Street in Park Slope), (718) 262-2622, www.puggiesbar.com

THEATER, "DNA ON THE VERGE": One-woman show performed by Julia Migenes. \$25. 2 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College (2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush), (718) 951-4500, www.brooklyncenteronline.org

STREET DANCE "CATAPULT": 2 pm. Friday, April 24. Classical Concert: The Grand Tour Orchestra performs Handel's "Resurrection." Sponsored by Brooklyn Friends of Chamber Music. \$30-\$10 (students). 3 pm. St. Ann's Church (157 Montague Street at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights), (718) 855-3053

CLASSICAL CONCERT "TRIP-TYCH": 3 pm. See Saturday, April 25

THEATER, "MY JOURNEY OF DECA": 6 pm. See Friday, April 24

THEATER, "IN LOVE WITH MOM": Play by Lulu Cooper. \$20. 6 pm. Jology (315 Columbia St. at Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront), (718) 395-3214, www.jology.biz

THEATER, "LA DIDONE": 7 pm. See Friday, April 24

SALES AND MARKETS
PS 321 FLEA MARKET: 9 am-5 pm. See Saturday, April 25

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: 11 am-6 pm. See Saturday, April 25

BAY RIDGE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS: 11 am-7 pm. See Friday, April 24

BROOKLYN FLEA INDOORS: Free. 11 am-6 pm. (76 Front St. at Washington Street in DUMBO), www.brooklynflea.com

BROOKLYN INDI MARKET: 11 am-6 pm. See Saturday, April 25

OTHER
TALK, "SEX AND SELF KNOWLEDGE": Sunday platform with Lawrence Bush. Free. 11 am. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope), (718) 768-2972, www.bse.org

TALK, BROOKLYN'S UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: Learn about the abolitionist history of the area. Free. 11 am. Fort Greene Park Visitor Center (Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene,

(718) 723-3218

"SAMPLE THE SLOPE": Sample food from local restaurants. Live music, raffles and more. Fundraiser for the Brooklyn Beavers women's softball team (\$10 suggested). Noon-4 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus), (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouse.com

GALLERY TALK: Contemporary artist Herman Bas. 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights), (718) 875-9124, www.brooklynmuseum.org

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CLAUDIA CORWIN: 2 pm. Congregation Mount Sinai (250 Ludman Plaza West at Clark Street in Brooklyn Heights), (718) 875-9124

OPEN STUDIOS: Free. 2-6 pm. The Space Program (2nd St. between Plymouth and John streets, seventh floor in DUMBO), www.shapereid.com

ART BOOK VIEWING: View the collaboration of 48 artists, designers and writers, conceived by Robin Ross. Free. 3-6 pm. Freebird Books (123 Columbia St. at Clinton Street in Carroll Gardens), (718) 643-8484, www.freebirdbooks.com

PLAY READING: Robert Horner reads "The Grassy Adventures of Mrs. Emory & Thomas Bristol." Free. 3 pm. Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO), (718) 222-8000, www.galapagosartspace.com

POETRY READING: Free. 3 pm. Stain (164 Grand St. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg), (718) 387-7840, www.starbar.com

POETRY READING: Graham Foust, Joanna Graham and Kristina Hummel. Free. 4 pm. Public Space (163 Dean St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Boerum Hill), (718) 858-8067, www.publicspace.org

OPENING RECEPTION: Nora Griffin. Free. 5-7 pm. Bar Oliveira (399 Fulton St. between Clinton and Varot, built avenues in Clinton Hill)

MON, APRIL 27
READING, WILLIAM D. COHAN: Author of "House of Cards." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill), (718) 575-3477, www.bookcourt.org

READING, CLIFFORD D. CONNER: Author of "Arthur O'Connor: The Most Important Irish Revolutionary You May Have Never Heard Of." Free. 7 pm. Rocky Sullivan's (34 Van Dyke St. at Duane Street in Red Hook), (718) 246-8050, www.mylivingspace.com

PING PONG CHAMPIONSHIP: SHIP. Winners will be flown to Las Vegas by sponsor for national championship. Free. 8 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus), (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouse.com

PLAY READING: "No Poem, No Song." Free. 8 pm. Stain (164 Grand St. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg), (718) 387-7840, www.starbar.com

TUES, APRIL 28
BIRDWATCHING WALK: Free. 7 am. Meet at Bartel Pritchard Square entrance (Prospect Park West and Southwestern Avenue in Prospect Park), www.brooklynbirdclub.org

NEW MOM'S GROUP: 5 (suggested). 1 pm. Gumbo (493 Atlantic and Third Avenue in Boerum Hill), (718) 855-7808

COLLEGE FAIR: Meet representatives from schools and join financial aid workshops. 5:30-6:30 pm. Brooklyn Borough Hall (209 Joralemon St. at Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn), (718) 632-4311

"SAMPLE THE SLOPE": Sample food from local restaurants. Live music, raffles and more. Fundraiser for the Brooklyn Beavers women's softball team (\$10 suggested). Noon-4 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus), (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouse.com

TALK, GLASS ON GLASS: Composer Philip Glass speaks with his cousin, radio personality Ira Glass. Part of gala benefit for St. Ann's Warehouse. \$150-\$350. 7:30 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse (38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO), (718) 254-8779, www.stannwarehouse.org

FILM, "HELVETICA": Documentary on the ubiquitous typeface. \$5. 8 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus), (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouse.com

WED, APRIL 29
BROOKLYN JAZZ HALL OF FAME CELEBRATION: Leonard Gaskin and Freddie Hubbard. Part of the Central Brooklyn Jazz Festival. Donation suggested. 6 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights), (718) 222-4111, www.brooklynhistory.org

SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP: Registration required. \$5. 6 pm. Spike Lee Screening Room (1 University Plaza at Willoughby Street in Downtown Brooklyn), www.spikeleebrooklyn.com

READING, DAVID HARRIS: Author of "The Perfect Baby Handbook." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill), (718) 575-3477, www.bookcourt.org

THEATER, "RENT": Fort Hamilton HS presents Jonathan Larson's musical. \$10. 7:30 pm. Fort Hamilton High School (88th Street and Narrows Avenue in Bay Ridge), (718) 766-1537 ext. 121

TRISHA BROWN DANCE COMPANY: \$20-\$45. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (130 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene), (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org

READING, JACK MEXICO AND PASHA MALLA: Authors of "Chop Underground" and "The Willy Brown Method." Free. 7:30 pm. Word (126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint), www.wordbooks.com

THEATER, "HOW SOON IS NOW?": 8 pm. See Friday, April 24

THEATER, "THE NOISE MAKER'S APPRENTICE": A puppet tale of medieval plastic surgery. \$10. 8 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg), (718) 977-6189, www.bricktheater.com

THURS, APRIL 30
READING, COLSON WHITEHEAD: Author of "Sag Harbor." Free. 5 pm. New York City College of Technology (205 Jay St. at Tillary Street in Downtown Brooklyn), (718) 260-4973, www.cuny.edu

FIXERS COLLECTIVE: Bring something to be fixed, and learn about fixing, mending and remaking. Free. 5-8 pm. Proteus Gowanus (543 Union St. at Nevins Street in Gowanus), proteusgowanus.com

TALK ABOUT INFERTILITY: Free. 5:30 pm. Preferred Health Partners (447 Atlantic Ave. between Bond and Nevins streets in Downtown Brooklyn), (888) 761-9088, www.brooklyninfertility.com

BOOK LAUNCH: Patrick Melia's "Threat." Free. 6-9 pm. PowerHouse Arena (37 See 9 DAYS on page 14

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in Nine Days in Brooklyn, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: calendar@brooklynpaper.com, or by mail: GC Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

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212-286-6360
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PHYSICIAN: DR. ALAN KLING, MD

ALAN KLING, MD
Board-Certified Dermatologist
NICOLE DeVINCENTIS, PA

FAMILY CALENDAR

FRI, APRIL 24

9:30-11:30 am: Bi-lingual creative movement with Marion Ramirez. \$25 per family. Brooklyn Arts Exchange 627 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope. (718) 852-0018. www.bak.org.

10:30 am and 7:30 pm: Universal Circus. African-American-owned circus offers animals, acrobatics and more. \$11-\$28.50. See Web site for price details. Wollman Rink (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park. (212) 307-7171. www.universalcircus.com).

11:30 am: Storytime. \$2.50. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710. themoxiespot.com).

Noon-7 pm: Sidewalk chalk giveaway. Free. Micro Museum (123 Smith St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Boerum Hill. (718) 797-3161. www.micromuseum.com).

6:15 pm: Family movie night. Free. Movie Spot (see venue info above).

SAT, APRIL 25

10:30 am-4:30 pm: "Celebrate Earth!" festival. Hands-on art and science workshops. Brooklyn Children's Museum (145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant. (718) 735-4400. www.brooklynkids.org).

11:30 am: Author Gail Carson Levine. Includes brunch. \$22 (\$17 for children). BAM Cafe (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene. (718) 230-4100. www.brooklynkids.org).

11:30 am and 3 pm: Learn about rain. Brooklyn Children's Museum (see venue info above).

Noon, 4 pm, 7:30 pm: Universal Circus. See Friday, April 24.

Noon-5 pm: Actor Day events. Free. Prospect Park Audubon Center (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park. (718) 287-3400. www.prospectpark.org/audubon).

Noon-7 pm: Sidewalk chalk giveaway. See Friday, April 24.

12:30 and 2:30 pm: Puppet show, "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" \$8 kids, \$17. Puppetworks (138 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope. (718) 965-3391. www.puppetworks.org).

1 pm: Nature Crafts. Free. Prospect Park Audubon Center (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park. (718) 287-3400. www.prospectpark.org/audubon).

4 pm: Sing and dance with local children's band \$15 (\$5 siblings, adults free). Gumbo (492 Atlantic Ave. between Nevins Street and Third Avenue in Boerum Hill. (718) 855-7608).

SUN, APRIL 26

10:30 am-4:30 pm: "Celebrate Earth!" festival. Brooklyn South Patrol Bureau hosts its annual fair with food and fun for kids. Make Friends with a dog today! Free. Bartel Pritchard Square (15th Street at Prospect Park West in Park Slope. (718) 675-7521).

11:30 am and 3 pm: Learn about rain. See Saturday, April 25.

Noon-5 pm: Actor Day events. See Saturday, April 25.

12:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 6:30 pm: Universal Circus. See Friday, April 24.

12:30 and 2:30 pm: "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp." See Saturday, April 25.

1 pm: Nature Crafts. See Saturday, April 25.

2 pm: Family movie night. See Friday, April 24.

To list your event, visit: BrooklynPaper.com/events/submit

See alpacas get their spring haircuts at the Prospect Park Zoo's Fleeca Festival on May 2.

performs. \$12. Southpaw (125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope. (718) 230-0246. www.southpaw.com).

3 and 7 pm: Puppet show, "The Colonists." \$10. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg. (718) 907-6199. www.bricktheater.com).

4 pm: Greg Foley. Author of "Willowby and the Lion" and "Don't Worry Bear." Free. Powerhouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO. (718) 666-3049. www.powerhousearena.com).

6:30 pm: BRNGO! Board game night. Free. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710. themoxiespot.com).

MON, APRIL 27

11:30 am: Storytime. \$2.50. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710. themoxiespot.com).

TUES, APRIL 28

11 am: Author Day with Lloyd Miller. \$2.50. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710. themoxiespot.com).

WED, APRIL 29

1 pm: Storytime. \$2.50. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710. themoxiespot.com).

THURS, APRIL 30

11 am: Dance Around with Nat. \$2.50. Movie Spot. Free. PS 102 (211 72nd St. between Hicks and Henry Streets in Bay Ridge. (718) 748-7404 ext. 424. ps102.org).

6 pm: Nintendo Wii Sports Night. Free. Movie Spot (see venue info above).

SAT, MAY 2

11 am-4 pm: Fleeca festival. Watch the zoo's sheep and alpacas get their spring haircuts. Prospect Park Zoo (450 Flatbush Ave. at Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park. (718) 399-7393. www.prospectpark-zoo.com).

11 am-3 pm: Food fair. Free. PS 321 (180 Seventh Ave. at Second Street in Park Slope. www.brooklynfoodconference.org).

12:30 and 2:30 pm: "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp." See Saturday, April 25.

1 pm: Nature Crafts. See Saturday, April 25.

2 pm: Family movie night. See Friday, April 24.

To list your event, visit: BrooklynPaper.com/events/submit

The Brooklyn Paper PARENIT

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Smartmom isn't bad enough

Smartmom has just discovered that it's very cool to be a bad parent right now. And she's not talking about run-of-the-mill bad parenting. You know the kind of bad parents you read about in the Daily News and the Post who commit horrendous crimes like murder, incest, neglect and all the other cruel and awful things that parents (some parents!) do to their children.

Nope. Smartmom is talking best-seller bad. The kind of bad parenting that sells books, makes parenting blogs tick and convinces ordinary parents that they're doing a pretty good job just by virtue of not being that horrifically bad.

It's the kind of bad that means money. And as everyone knows, Smartmom has an agent, a book publisher and dreams of publishing her genius insights into the maternal condition. So all of these best-selling bad parenting books are making her mighty jealous and quite sure the boat she may have missed the sea yet another parenting trend.

Today, there are many flavors of bad parents (soon, they will need their own special section at the Community Bookstore). First, there are the hipster bad parents. You know, the groovy bad parents who rebel against the status quo of perfect parenting. Like that mom in the badge of honor: "I'm a bad parent and proud of it."

But there's a whopper: the dad who makes his kids wait

column called Bad Parent

to be a book collection) with story after story about all the bad things parents can do.

OK. How bad is bad? Smartmom knows from bad. Really. And while she doesn't really like to broadcast it unless she's on deadline and has nothing else to write, she might be willing to spill the means if that were a covered book contract. So here goes.

Smartmom lets the Oh So Feisty One order out Chinese when Hepcat makes scallop risotto.

Smartmom and Hepcat only require Teen Spirit to text them if he's going to be home after 4 am in the morning on Saturday night.

Smartmom lets the Oh So Feisty One order out Chinese when Hepcat makes scallop risotto.

Smartmom isn't sure she's really bad enough to sell a bad parenting book or a Bad Parent column for bubble (if the Web is really all that bad. There's the parent who lets her baby watch six hours of television a day (can you imagine?) The one about the parents who walk around naked all the time (how naive is the dad who is forcing his kids to play soccer) (is that like forcing OSFO to take piano lessons?).

But there's a whopper: the dad who makes his kids wait



By Louise Crawford

in the car while he gets a lap dance.

Now that's bad. Years from now you can be sure there will be loads of memoirs written by the children of those parents who wrote for the Bad Parent column. There are already a plethora of memoirs about bad parents, written by people who survived terrible childhoods. Heck, half of English literature is about children surviving rotten childhoods.

Certainly one of best bad parenting memoirs is "The Glass Castle," Jeannette Walls's look at her dysfunctional, nomadic parents. It's like she was raised by wolves and she goes into excruciating detail about being uprooted constantly from one town to another, not being out of her parents' clutches, wearing shoes held together with safety pins; and using magic markers to camouflage her parents' faces.

But someone she survived it all and still has compassion for her parents, who were clearly mentally ill. And she wrote a best-selling book about it, which you can put on your shelf with all the others: "Running with Scissors," "Sickened: The Memoir of a Munchausen by Proxy Childhood," "A Child Called It," "Mockingbird Days," and on

and on.

Dang. Smartmom's parents may not have been perfect, but they'd never qualify for the bad parenting Olympics, that's for sure. Scratch that idea for a memoir.

And look at Lenore Skenazy. All she did was let her 10-year-old son ride the subway by himself. Why didn't Smartmom think of that? Think of the media frenzy

that could have incited if she'd only told OSFO to take the train all by herself to Manhattan Granny's. Like Skenazy, she could have been the talk of the town and the proud recipient of a book contract.

Yup, Skenazy has written a book called "Free Range Kids," where she writes about "giving our kids the freedom we had without going nuts with worry." Since the publication of her book, she's been driving Smartmom crazy with her Twitter tract

about ridiculous examples of overcautious parenting like "A school just outlawed all human contact including hugs, high fives — lest someone get hurt or 'sheesh'."

You don't need the full 140 Twitter characters to spell self-promotion!

Skenazy is not alone. Smartmom just heard about another new book called, "True Mom Confessions." A school just received something like 500,000 confessions!

pitch perfect parenting and

over control or the conspiracy to make Smartmom feel like she's missed yet another publishing boat.

Oh, it's clearly the latter! Damn.

Louise Crawford, a Park Slope resident, also writes the Web site, "Only the Blog Knows Brooklyn." And check out her beloved Hepcat's photo show at the Old Stone House in J.L. Byrne Park (Fifth Avenue, between Third and Fourth streets in Park Slope), opening on April 28.

So do I.

What gives? Is this bad parenting bad just a swinging of the pendulum? A healthy reaction to the emphasis on

pitch perfect parenting and

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UniverSoul Circus hits and misses

The news that the Bloomberg Administration is bringing the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus to town didn't impress me at all. Brooklyn already has a circus every spring in Prospect Park.

Our hometown version, the UniverSoul Circus, delights thousands of kids during its April runs at the Wollman Rink. For the most part, the troupe does a good job, but my visit last week revealed flaws that quirk that will forever leave such a discordant collection of notes.

First, the good news: precision riding performers were outstanding. If too quick to leave the stage: a tumbling troupe called "The Soul Engineers" flipped each other around like they were rag dolls; an act involving two performers on a giant rotating pendulum was practically death-defying. And the best news is that no seat is more than 20 rows from the action.

But those highlights were lost in a sea of missed opportunities: a "high-wire" troupe called the China Soul Flyers were surprisingly dull; an overly long portion of Act II features still walkers and costumed dancers straight out of the Labor Day carnival parade on Eastern Parkway; a vaudeville act is undermined by the fact that the juggler's



By Thurston Dooley III

strengths — audience members fed connected to the modern media (and, judging by the applause, the frequent use of Obama posters) — but also one of its weaknesses. For every traditional circus act in the UniverSoul presentation, there is a jarring reminder of the current events going on just outside the big top.

A funny magician's routine was marred, for example, when two scantily clad women of the night got into a fight over the magician's affections. An act by the "Grandma"-like clown quickly dissolves into a parody of Beyoncé's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)." More Obama imagery precedes a routine by two over-the-hill child contortionists whose act had nothing to do with politics (except for the "Obama" over backward part, perhaps).

The result is a crazy mixed-up show that doesn't know whether to embrace 600 years of circus traditions or distance itself from them. Do you have a good time? Of course. But at what cost?

UniverSoul Circus at Wollman Rink in Prospect Park (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (212) 307-7171, April 21-26, 10:30 am and 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$11-\$28.50. For info, visit www.universoulcircus.com.

UniverSoul Circus at Wollman Rink in Prospect Park (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (212) 307-7171, April 21-26, 10:30 am and 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$11-\$28.50. For info, visit www.universoulcircus.com.

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OUR OPINION

Bread and circuses

For the first time, the war over the future of Coney Island is offering some positive collateral damage.

For more than two years, the Bloomberg administration has blocked the neighborhood's principal landowner, Joe Sitt of Thor Equities, from moving ahead with his \$1.5-billion plan to create an all-year, Vegas-style complex of rides, hotels, shopping and nightlife.

Sitt hasn't exactly been a carnival barker, either. He did not renew Astro-land's lease, and closed popular independent rides and attractions like the bathing cages. Also, he held out for months before giving his Boardwalk shop tenants new — and more expensive — leases. And his efforts to bring some life to his other properties have been weak and scatter-shot.

The result has been a Coney Island that enters the summer season under a cloud of uncertainty. Millions of people will still visit, if only for the beach, a Nathan's hot dog or a Brooklyn Cyclones baseball game, but without a vibrant amusement

Coney Island's combatants have opened up a new front: the public-relations war.

area, Coney loses its essential identity. Amid this ongoing battle between the mayor and Sitt, the combatants have opened up a new front: the public-relations war. Both sides are under great pressure to demonstrate that a vibrant, lively Coney Island could be achieved easily were it not for the obstinacy of the other side.

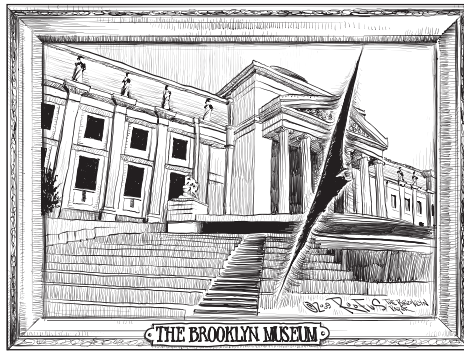
As a result, the city has trumpeted its few achievements this spring as earth-shaking events. Yes, a one-ring version of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus is coming to Coney Island this summer, but when the tent stakes are pulled up in September, the same long-term problem will remain: the city will still be backing a rezoning plan that does not have broad community support and requires huge land-acquisition costs borne by taxpayers.

Meanwhile, Sitt has also been clumping out press releases this spring. First, he boasted of a grand "Festival By the Sea," which will feature rides, side shows, a "nippleplace" and the Red Hook vendors. There will even be, apparently, a two-headed cow.

But, like the city's big announcement, Sitt's summertime "Festival" is ultimately one big tease, a reminder that both he and the mayor have punted on the real challenge: finding a long-term solution to Coney's decades-long decline. Instead of spending hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars on land, the city merely needs to allow year-round attractions, such as bowling alleys, movie theaters and indoor rides in the area currently zoned for outdoor rides.

It would then be up to Sitt to conform to that zoning or sell to someone who would. So, yes, Coney Island will be a lively place this summer. But Mayor Bloomberg and Joe Sitt have failed to find a permanent solution.

ALL DRAWN OUT



LETTERS

CB2 is really upset about our editorial!

To the editor,

In your recent editorial ("Let DUMBO thrive," April 11), The Brooklyn Paper states that DUMBO needs to adapt as circumstances change. I believe, based on my review of past recommendations, Community Board 2 shares this opinion.

The community board opposed Two Trees Management's first Dock Street development proposal, but recently recommended approval of the redesigned plan. The city's final determination on plans by the Watchtower Society for a new headquarters includes modifications suggested first by Community Board 2.

In recent years, the community board recommended approval of three applications to the Board of Standards and Appeals for conversion of properties to residential use, but disapproved of a fourth. The Brooklyn Paper's statement that the community board has "increasingly exhibited an antipathy to residential development in DUMBO" is not supported by the record. Instead, the record suggests thoughtful and nuanced review of land-use applications.

Community Board 2 and others have called for a rezoning of DUMBO for a decade or longer.

There is mixed opinion in DUMBO about the city's proposal to rezone the area east of the Manhattan Bridge for mixed use. In a close vote — a fact not only mentioned, but apparently disregarded — a majority of community board members expressed the opinion that the proposal did not adequately fulfill the request of the community and community board for a neighborhood rezoning.

The community board's vote recommends disapproval of the city's current proposal, but does not conceptually reject rezoning DUMBO for residential development.

John Dew, Clinton Hill
The writer is chairman of Community Board 2, which covers Brooklyn Heights, DUMBO, Downtown, Fort Greene and Clinton Hill.

He likes us

To the editor,

After meeting some of the reporters from The Brooklyn Paper and the Manhattan bar on Washington Avenue the other night ("Siberia" exile finds home in Brooklyn," GO Brooklyn, April 18), I tore through your Web site

and found myself continuing to read your editorial archives for hours.

I've been so pre-occupied that my re-watching of the questionable "Enterprise" series has truly suffered.

You should know that your paper has a new convert. If I run into your crew again at the Manhattan's, the first round's on me.

Pat Hipp, Prospect Heights

Cookie crumble

To the editor,

I watched Gersh Kuntzman's podcast about his sad search for a cookie near your Metrotech offices ("Gersh's fruitless cookie

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By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201. All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

search" online, April 17) and first wanted to tell him a hearty, "Welcome to the neighborhood!"

I certainly wanted to remind Gersh that he only roamed part of the area and his descriptions were on target. But just one block from where he searched for a treat is the Metro Café on the Metrotech Commons. And another block away is Junior's — both great places for fresh baked goods.

It's true that we only have a few "table cloth" restaurants but the Metrotech area is the ethnic food capital of Brooklyn, if not the city.

Mike Weiss, Downtown
The writer is executive director of the Metrotech Business Improvement District.

Last century

To the editor,

I want you to know that Century 21 discriminates against overweight women!

I recently went to buy some pants in their plus-size section, which used to be in the smallest corner of the second floor. But when I got there, all I saw was sign that said, "Petites." Did the world shrink?

Century 21 no longer carries

plus-size clothes. Is the store embarrassed to have heavy women as shoppers? Why not put a larger section for larger women and make it visible to the public and not hidden away?

Plus-size women do have money to spend on good quality clothes at a reasonable price. The average woman is above a size 12. Profit is the goal of retail.

We had money to spend, but now Century 21 has to reduce the prices of all its size 4's, so where is the profit? The store could have made more money if it had more plus-sized clothes — and not hidden them away all these years.

Maryteresa McKenna, Bay Ridge

Rewrite!

To the editor,

As much as I normally could commiserate with an artist whose work has been less-than-ideally presented, for Nathan Currier to use the ever-teetering Brooklyn Philharmonic in these parlous times for such a large sum is kicking an institution when it is down ("Symphony" Composure Philharmonic for butcher-

ing his "Gaia" masterpiece," April 17).

Perhaps the solution is to rein in the scope of his "Gaia Variations" so that it is doable in under two hours.

After all, I believe even Mahler managed to keep his notorious "Tafel Symphony" to little more than 60 minutes.

Laurence Dankel, Park Slope

School daze

To the editor,

As a member of the PTA at PS 230 in Windsor Terrace, I am disappointed by planned elimination of some school art and music programs due to budget cuts.

We do understand that the Department of Education has to make some very difficult decisions, but eliminating such programs is not the best option.

Veronica Guzman-Meyer, Windsor Terrace

Poils not dull

To the editor,

While the candidates running to replace Councilman David Yassky may not differ as much on substance, the candidate forum could

hardly be considered a "yawn," as your columnist called it, given the candidates' universal objections to the current administration's development policies and big project initiatives ("Candidates to succeed Yassky yawn it out in Brooklyn Heights," the Politicrusher, online, April 21).

Isn't Mayor Bloomberg's ability to create such unity a fascination in itself?

The candidates were nearly unanimous in opposing Atlantic Yards as the most-destructive project in Brooklyn: opposing housing in Brooklyn Bridge Park; opposing Jed Walenta's Dock Street project; wanting a federal Superfund cleanup of the Gowanus Canal; and in calling for stronger community boards and a stronger Council.

How can such clearly marshaled opposition to the status quo be boring?

Perhaps The Brooklyn Paper is merely concluding that strong opposition realistically means nothing because a) the mayor is supreme over the Council, and b) Bloomberg's claim to the mayoralty is not subject to practical political challenge.

Michael D.D. White, Brooklyn Heights

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BROOKLYN POLITICS

THE SMOKE-FILLED ROOM

Yawn! Debate in Heights failed to rise

Yassky seat seekers don't hit the mark

The seven candidates to succeed David Yassky and represent Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Brooklyn Heights and part of Park Slope in the City Council have got to do better than this.

Monday night's candidate forum held by the Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats and the Independent Neighborhood Democrats was the latest in a seemingly endless series of mirth-free events that are doing more to drive people away from the political process than towards it.

The main problem is that the candidates differ little on substance, leaving an audience member to ponder the not-so-subtle, and not-so-appealing, differences in each candidate's style.

Isaac Abraham, a Hasidic activist from Williamsburg, spent much of the night describing himself as an uncommitted "fiver" who doesn't care how many people he has pissed off — and would seek to piss off if elected. Guys will probably want to get first in line; Abraham is the only candidate



who opposes gay marriage.

But Abraham is ultimately a crowd pleaser, a political tummler, if you will. You want passionate anger. Ken Baer is your man. The former Sierra Club chairman spent most of the St. Francis College forum getting so worked up about the current — and, sometimes inept — state of land-use planning in this city that he was practically spitting.

Doug Biviano, the newest candidate in the now-seven-person race, emphasized how much "fun" democracy can be when everyone participates. It was sometimes hard to tell if he was running for City Council or the social committee.

Jo Anne Simon spent much of the night projecting an air of calm, intelligent professionalism, even

sensibly saying that she wanted more time to study whether the Gowanus Canal should be made a federal Superfund site while her opponents rushed to support federal intervention (despite its mixed record).

Even Thies, who has not earned Yassky's endorsement, despite working as his primary aide for five years, came off as the workaholic of the bunch, pitching proposals for mandatory affordable housing and kicking off his credentials.

Steve Levin, who is chief of staff to Brooklyn Democratic Party Chairman Vito Lopez, was his usual self: He didn't bother to show up.

And Ken Diamondstone, who called out two candidates (though not by name, also) as being too close to Lopez, came off as a man without an issue — except his hatred for the party chair and his

"gross machine."

Still, there were some highlights that made it all worthwhile.

Most over-enthusiastic reaction to a boring all-day event: Biviano, still channeling Julie from "The Love Boat," said he would try to convene events like state Sen. Daniel Squadron's district-wide convention earlier this year. "He really knocked it out of the park for Democracy," Biviano said.

Best faux pas of the night: Baer, an accountant by trade, said there were four reasons he was running: "1. Community control over development. 2. Improving public schools. 3. Protecting the water supply." But let one think that Baer is running a crooked accounting firm, he did get to his fourth reason during his closing statement: "creating jobs and improving the economy."

Most radical idea of the night: Biviano's call for the community boards to have a veto power over all land-use and rezoning propos-



THEY EVEN BORE THEMSELVES! Man, that must have been a fun night listening to the candidates to succeed Councilman David Yassky. From left, they are: Isaac Abraham, Ken Baer, Doug Biviano, Ken Diamondstone, Jo Anne Simon and Evan Thies.

als came out of nowhere. So if you think your local community board, which doesn't have a budget to independently review the land-use proposals and whose members are very often appointed as paybacks by the borough president and city councilmembers, should be able to veto the Council, the City Planning Commission and the mayor, then Biviano

is your candidate.

Most tortured syntax of the night: When Isaac Abraham said, "If I had to put it in one word why I'm running for Council is would be this: 'I've been there and done that.'"

Most bizarre criticism of a developer: Diamondstone lambasted developer Jed Wentz, who hopes to build an 18-story

tower and public middle school near the Brooklyn Bridge, a structure that critics say would forever obscure views of the fabled span. "It's disturbing that a developer would divide the community by offering us something that we all need," Diamondstone said.

Yeah, the nerve of that developer for offering us something we all need!

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Misconceptions abound. "Many people think you need less sleep as you age, but most adults still need their eight hours of sleep each night," she adds.

A change in sleep patterns is by itself cause for concern. "It is not unusual for older adults to go to bed earlier in the evening and wake very early in the morning," says Terranova. "There's nothing wrong with a different pattern, as long as you sleep enough and well."

The usual suspects and the unlikely culprits. Most adults know that drinking caffeinated beverages or daytime napping will interfere with their nighttime sleep. Even alcohol, which may help you fall asleep initially, usually causes people to wake up in the middle of

the night. Obesity, as well, can cause sleep disturbances and breathing problems. Sleep apnea, in which a person repeatedly stops breathing for a brief time during sleep, is often the cause of poor sleep.

"Look for the less likely culprit," says Terranova. Medication — many adults take medication for cardio-

vascular disease, which can interfere with sleep. Anti-depressants may do the same for some people.

Even a little bit of exercise will help you sleep better at night. Having regular to-bed and wake-up times will go a long way toward helping you sleep better.

"A good night's sleep is in-

creasingly being recognized as a key factor in healthy aging," concludes Terranova. "Don't hesitate to speak to your family physician."

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
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Continued from page 1

Dock Street is contextual and appropriate, and with its critically important new school and affordable housing, a valuable addition to the community," he added.

Unlike Walentas, Dock Street opponents weren't happy with the City Planning Commission's ruling.

"We are extremely disappointed that Amanda Burden didn't go far enough [in trimming the building]," said DUMBO Neighborhood Association Vice President Gus Sheha. "The modifications ... were quite marginal."

In ordering a height reduction and the cut-out section from a 50-foot portion of the lower area of the building, the Commission seemed to at least be partially swayed by a late push by Brooklyn Bridge historian David McCullough, who visited the fabled span this month to call for the Walentas proposal to not only be halted, but for other buildings around the bridge to be demolished for a national park.

The school agency still held that position even as it was negotiating with Walentas to build such a school in DUMBO. Internal e-mails also suggest that the agency was unwilling to consider a school that would be open to all children.

Now that the Planning Commission has weighed in, the project will move to the City Council, where its prospects are far from certain. Councilmen David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) and Bill DeBlasio (D-Park Slope) oppose it, while Letitia James (D-Fort Greene) likes it.

Community Board 2 and Borough President Markowitz both backed the rezoning, though Markowitz called for a slimmer building to reduce what he believes will be an

"The modifications do not go far enough in ... ensuring the preservation of the views and the bowl-like feeling around our iconic Brooklyn Bridge," he said in a statement. "It is my hope that City Council will revisit my recommendation, which does significantly more to ensure views of the bridge are preserved."

The fairly straight-up country sound of "A.M." was followed by three increasingly experimental albums, "Being There" (1996), "Summerteeth" (1999), and peaking commercially (at least with the 2002 opus, "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot," which propelled the band onto gen-

Through it all, Tweedy remained close to the edge. The making of the album was chronicled in the 2002 documentary, "I Am Try-